14 North Leverett Road Montague, MA 01351 6699 '99 AUG 1999

Dockets Management Branch Food and Drug Administration 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061 Rockville, MD 20852

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in relation to docket numbers 98N-1230, 96P-0418, and 97P-0197. I would like the USDA to ban forced molting of layer hens. This practice is extremely cruel because it involves starving the hens for up to fourteen days in order to manipulate egg production. Hens are very stressed during forced molting and the result is a destroyed immune system. This leaves the hens and their eggs vulnerable to salmonella poison.

In order to prevent such cruelty and protect the public from contracting a possibly fatal illness, I urge you to ban the practice of forced molting.

Sincerely,

Maurillen Japoldo
Maureen Ippolito

96 P. 0418

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M. Ippolito 14 N. Leverett Rd. Montague, MA 01351





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CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number

98N-1230/ C2 94

See File Number:

97P-0197/ C295 96P-0418/ C294